

FRENCH INDO-CHINA

put to death in the 1850's led both governments to lodge
m protest at Hue. When no response was forthcoming, the
Admiral, Rigault de Genouilly, was ordered to bombard the
forts of Tourane (1858). Spain, making common cause with France,
in this attack. The forts were quickly demolished, but trouble
an expeditionary force was attempted on the mainland.
The Annamites, retreating before the French advance, left their
to inflict a defeat, through the lack of supplies and the presence
of germs, which they were impotent to do by force of arms.
In hesitation, the Admiral decided to shift his attack elsewhere.
He chose Saigon rather than Tonkin—a move that was subsequently
criticized—because of its accessibility, and because it was one
of the rice granaries of the Far East. After he had captured the Saigon
the Admiral returned to Tourane where the same circum-
stances continued to hold him in check.
In November 1859, De Genouilly was replaced by Admiral Page,
instructed to make a treaty with Annam that involved no terri-
fying concessions, but only a guarantee of religious liberty and the
right of having French consuls in the main Annamite ports. Hue
did not respond upon such liberal conditions with sufficient alacrity,
a policy of interminable delays and contradictory inter-
ference in the best Oriental manner, would discourage the French into
a withdrawal. But before Admiral Page could force through
&c. his previous orders to take part in the current Chinese cam-
he paign away to the North, he left a garrison of only
mm at Saigon. They were almost immediately besieged

in the by Aonasnite forces numbering twelve
thousand men—at
a This siege lasted from March 1860
to January
,by the small garrison cut off entirely from
tto Wbfft the war in China came to an
end, Admiral
was to &dr relief with a strong force
of three
In to a hard-fought 'Campaign,
which won for
the Owner hao: to organize a new
administra-
te® m all the Annamite officials had
withdrawn,
ft a aft the appimcfd. 'The Court of Hue was
exceptionally
m up r8rc& jea these new French
possessions, and
it miitaiy victaies as weH as a
simultaneous revolt in
to aul* fa En^eiw/Tii-Duc^sue for peace. In
1863, just
he mm by De.k Qrod&e, tie Admiral
succeeded in
* niHi Aaiisip,,,^ legitimatized the French